

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electrophotographic image forming apparatus capable of reliably forming an image with density  
5 gradation, one which does not have a low-quality appearance. The estimated average halftone granularity of the toner image after developing but before electrostatic transfer was set at 0.25 or less. The average halftone granularity was found by  
10 measuring the granularity of a toner image at locations of different average brightness by means of newly proposed formula, and averaging the measured values for which the average brightness is 40 to 80. The estimated average halftone granularity was  
15 obtained by estimating the average halftone granularity of the toner image on a photoreceptor by means of a newly proposed method.